



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Washington, DC 20546

Grant Information Circular

GIC 20-02
June 02, 2020

PURPOSE: To inform the NASA grants community that the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Grants Policy and Compliance (GPC) Branch has published an updated edition of Grant and Cooperative Agreement Manual (GCAM). The updated GCAM will be effective June 16, 2020.

BACKGROUND: On an annual basis, GPC will revise and update the GCAM as necessary. Since the GCAM was last updated in August 2019, several Grant Information Circulars (GIC) were released to inform NASA about new or revised grant policies. Many of the edits in this new edition of the GCAM reflect our incorporation of the GICs released in 2019. Incorporating the 2019 GICs into the GCAM ensures that all grant-related policy is consolidated into one document for ease of reference. Five GICs were inserted into the GCAM:

1. **GIC 19-01:** This GIC clarifies policy on award recipients' ability to use award funds to improve private property.
2. **GIC 19-02:** This GIC notifies the agency that our award terms and conditions and NASA-specific certifications and representations have been removed from 2 CFR 1800 and are now located in the GCAM.
3. **GIC 19-03:** This GIC informs NASA that responsibility for grants policy transitioned from the Office of Procurement to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.
4. **GIC 19-04:** This GIC establishes the policy requiring all Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) to be cleared with GPC prior to publication.
5. **GIC 19-05:** This GIC informs Grant Officers, Technical Officers, and Program Managers that they must use GPC's template if they would like to inform an entity that they have been selected for an award before a Grant Officer issues the official award. The template can be found on GPC's Max.gov website.

In addition to the GIC language that has been added, other updates and revisions include:

1. **Cost Share Policy:** Language has been added to clarify what a cost share or cost match is, what constitutes a cost share, what responsibilities NASA and award recipients have regarding cost sharing, and the potential corrective actions that award recipients may face if they do not meet their cost share contribution requirements.
2. **NOFO Publication Requirements:** Clarifies the minimum number of calendar days that NOFOs must be made available to the public per 2 CFR 200.

3. **Assistance Listings:** Clarifies that the term “assistance program” is now referred to as “assistance listing” or “listing” in the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA).
4. **Whistleblower Certification:** Additional language has been added to the NASA-specific certification titled “Representation Regarding Whistleblower Protection as Provided in PL 113-235 Title VII Section 743, All Subsequent Appropriation Acts, and 10 U.S.C. § 2409.” The additional language clarifies whistleblower protections available to award recipients and subaward recipients.
5. **Harassment Reporting Requirements:** A new term and condition, titled “Reporting Requirements Regarding Findings of Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Other Forms of Harassment, or Sexual Assault,” has been added to the GCAM. The term and condition establishes award recipient reporting requirements when there is a finding or determination of harassment regarding a NASA-funded PI or Co-I.
6. **Elimination of Center Waivers:** Prior to 2019, NASA Centers could request to waive the requirement that all grants and cooperative agreements be issued by the NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC). Language regarding this waiver process has been removed, with one exception – cooperative agreements issued to commercial firms must still be processed by the Center that is managing the project. This exception will expire on October 1, 2020, and at that point the NSSC will process *all* NASA awards.

A full list of all GCAM edits, as well as the page numbers on which those edits can be found, is provided in the enclosed spreadsheet.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This GIC and the updated GCAM is effective June 16, 2020.

REGULATION OR TERM AND CONDITION CHANGES: No regulatory changes. A new term and condition regarding harassment reporting has been added to the GCAM.

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Enclosure:

1. GCAM Revisions List